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The Fort Erie Times

Saturday, May 12, 2012

'And they're off!'

Racetrack opens for 115th season

10

Popular summer line–up

Safari Niagara bringing recording artists to town

12

Former NHL referee being added to Wall of Fame

get it online
www.forterietimes.com

Smart with sports

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Canadian Football League players Tyler Scott, Kevin Scott, John Surla, Derek Schiavone, Sandro DeAngelis, and Kyle Jones with Our Lady of Victory Catholic School students Jonathan Grisafi, Daylon Groulx and James Burnside during Thursday's 'Pros vs. Joes' football game. Go to page 27 to read more about it.

Two schools will close

Fate of Rose Seaton and Fort Erie decided

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

The fate of two elementary schools in Fort Erie has been decided.

District School Board of Niagara (DSBN) trustees have considered a recommendation from senior administrators and a volunteer accommodation review committee (ARC) to close both Fort Erie Elementary and Rose Seaton as of Aug. 31, 2013.

Under the plan approved by the DSBN trustees this past week, students who currently attend Fort Erie Elementary, who live south of the Queen Elizabeth Way, will attend Garrison Road Public School, says Stephen Passero, ARC member and Ward 1 Councillor.

All other students will be attending General Vanier Public School in September 2013, Passero adds.

See Page 2

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Every effort will be made to make sure the transition is as seamless as possible

From Page 1

Passero says the school closings mean that General Vanier will undergo a renovation to accomodate the incoming students.

Renovations include work to the interior and exteior of the building and a loading zone for busses to drop off and pick up students.

These renovations, which also include the addition of new classrooms, will also accommodate the Parent and Family Literacy from Rose Seaton.

"It's unfortunate," Passero says about the school closings, but it was neccessary, he says.

Passero knew the review process would ultimately lead to closures because "there are simply not enough students to fill all the schools we have."

"The time and the process to debate which schools close has concluded. Now is the time to focus and really support the resources for the schools remaining open."

Passero says he will continue to work with school board trustees to make sure support and focus is given to the two remaining public schools.

The ARC committee member says one of his recomendations in the review was to look at all of the updates

> **"Now is the time to focus and really support the resources for the remaining schools open."**
>
> *— Ward 1 Coun. Stephen Passero*

General Vanier would need over the next five to ten years and complete these updates over the summer months prior to the 2013 September start.

With about 330 students from Rose Seaton and Fort Erie Erie Elementary making the transitition to General Vanier and Garrison Road, Passero says these updates will be completed to make the transition as seamless as possible for students.

With the two schools closing, the ARC member says education in Fort Erie will be better for students because teachers won't be responsible for teaching more than one class at a time.

"As it is now, a majority of classes are split, which not only takes away from instructing the students, it's an added pressure to the teacher."

Passero says one concern residents may have is that the schools that will be closed will become empty buildings.

Passero, who says he can see Roseseaton at the end of his driveway, doesn't want that to happen.

"We will ensure the two properties provide something positive to the community."

Both Rose Seaton and Fort Erie properties will most likely need to be rezoned for other uses and that is a process that will have to happen through the Town, says Passero.

"The Town, and myself through the Town, will have an influence on what the property is used for."

Fort Erie trustee Dave Schaubel says closing a school is always difficult.

The school board estimates that the school closings will cost an additional $40,000 in busing fees until it can apply to the Ministry of Education for relief.

Despite the additional cost of moving, the school board estimates that it will save $542,000 a year.

Schaubel said that debate will likely continue, but the ARC made the best decision.

"The consensus was that we needed to close schools."

The trustee echoes what Passero says about class sizes being much better because of the school closings.

"The stress levels are just huge in small schools, where teachers are called on to do three or four different grades and all of the subjects that go with it. It's brutal and unfair."

-with files from QMI Agency

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Rollover near Peace Bridge

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

On Wednesday afternoon, at about 1 p.m., the Niagara Regional Police, paramedics and the Fort Erie Fire Department were called to the Peace Bridge, where a transport truck rolled onto its side after making an abrupt right turn. The driver was a 43-year-old male, who suffered serious but non- life threatening injuries. He was taken to Greater Niagara General Hospital. Police said the Ministry of Environment was called because oil spilled from the vehicle.

Talking about toads

Kris Dubé
Fort Erie Times

Questions about a designated habitat for the Fowler's Toad could be heard hopping around the council chambers for almost a full hour at Monday's council-in-committee meeting.

Council was given a draft plan of conditions that will be a part of the overall benefit permit that is being worked on by the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA), in a report that was presented only for informational purposes and no decision was expected to be made.

inquiries were made to members of Town staff at the meeting, during a discussion that lasted over 56 minutes.

See Page 19

Martin meets with area mayors to discuss location of new hospital

South Niagara mayors get together for discussion

Kris Dubé
Fort Erie Times

The discussion about a potential location for a new hospital in South Niagara has begun.

On Friday morning, mayor Doug Martin met with mayors from Welland, Port Colborne, Welland, Pelham and Wainfleet to start the process of working together with nearby municipalities to come to an agreeable solution.

This follows hospital restructuring recommendations presented last week by the Niagara Health System's provincially appointed supervisor Dr. Kevin Smith.

He recommends a new medical facility for the southern tier of the region, which would result in the closure of sites in Fort Erie, Niagara Falls, Welland and Port Colborne.

Martin said the meeting on Friday morning was productive.

"There was a lot of dialogue and discussion," said Martin.

He said the gathering of local leaders wasn't designed to narrow down a specific location right away, but to share information and raise questions that still need to be answered about issues such as available servicing in potential areas for the new hospital and demographics of areas that will be impacted.

The mayors will meet again next Friday.

"By then we will have a better handle on where we are going with this," said Martin.

In his opinion, Martin feels a new fully-serviced medical facility would be appropriate for the Lyons Creek Road area, near the Queen Elizabeth Way.

But he and his fellow mayors will continue to work on a decision.

"We need to figure out what information we need to make a knowledgeable decision as to what the possible location could be," said Martin.

Smith's recommendations say a new hospital would cost about $850 million.

'I was terminated,' says Town lawyer

Kris Dubé
Fort Erie Times

In the last two months, there has been an amount of mystery surrounding why council and staff were meeting in closed session so often, to discuss matter related to an identifiable individual.

What was being discussed was the tenure of the Town of Fort Erie's director of legal services Heather Salter.

At least three times in a month, council meetings were finished with an in-camera meeting and by the end of it, Salter has lost her position as the municipality's lawyer.

"Despite what the Town seems to be telling people, I'm not on any form of leave. I was terminated by the Town, without cause," Salter told the Fort Erie Times.

She says no unprofessional conduct was committed on her behalf and she will be exercising her options.

"I have legal rights that arise out of this circumstance and I am pursuing them," said Salter.

Mayor Doug Martin said he could not comment on the specifics of this matter, but said the process is still ongoing.

"Until there is some resolve to it, then we will bringing it forward as to what actually took place," said Martin.

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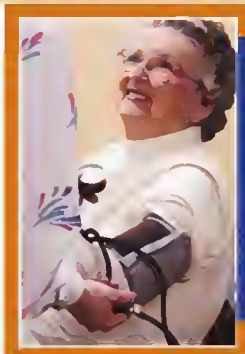

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opinion page

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our editorial

We want feedback about location of new hospital in south Niagara

This is a big decision for Niagara and we are sure it will take some time for an agreement to be reached.

This week, mayor Doug Martin weighed in on the possible location for a new hospital in the southern tier of the region, meeting with a group of mayors from the area.

It seems apparent that favouring their own home town is not on the agenda, as Martin explained that the dialogue had to date, was nothing short of productive with plenty of support for one another and their municipalities.

Health care has been one of the most contentious Niagara issues we have written and read about in the last few years and this is one of the rare occasions where elected officials seem to be pointing out the positive.

A new hospital in south Niagara, will alleviate many concerns heard throughout Niagara over the last few years.

We hope that is the case, anyhow.

There is still a plethora of information and data that will need to be gathered and we don't assume a location will be chosen immediately, but at least it seems the wheels are in motion, when it comes to improving the amount and quality of access to full-service health care in the region.

This is just our opinion, but we would love to hear from our readers about this issue.

Where would you like to see a new facility built?

Do you think a restructuring plan that would cost $850 million is too much?

These are all questions we would like to hear answered from the local community and rest of Niagara.

So don't hesitate to send us your feedback.

You can send us a leter to the editor, you can call the office to be quoted in an article... the ball is in your court.

Please forward all your submissions to kris.dube@sunmedia.ca or give us a call at (905) 871-3100 ext. 207.

-Kris Dubé

Do You Remember?

A big thanks to Barb Wilkie, Doris Darragh, and Gail Pellerin, for identifying the ladies in last week's photo as the executive of the Catholic Women's League at St. Joseph's Church in Snyder, Ontario.

In the back row, from left to right, are Catherine Geis, secretary; Millie Willick, treasurer; and Margery Morningstar, president.

In the front row, from left to right, are Theresa (Buck) Koabel and Lorraine Collee.

This week, as our local schools begin track and field season, can you help the museum identify this athlete from years ago?

There is one name on the back, timekeeper Harvey Mathews.

If you recognize the runner or his onlookers, or know where this race was held, please call the Fort Erie Historical Museum 905-894-5322 or send an e-mail museum@forterie.on.ca

Let's celebrate mothers this Sunday because they do so much

Sarah Ferguson
Reporter's Notebook

On Sunday morning, mothers will be waking up to breakfast in bed, tokens of appreciation both large and small and a special day filled with lots of love.

When my brothers and I were younger, my mom would receive what we thought were the finest creations—a dazzling macaroni necklace, a magnificent stick drawing or a charming, and hopefully, homemade card.

We tried our best to make our mother's day special because she has done, and continues to do, more for us than we could ever repay her for.

Sometimes we treated her to a special breakfast of mushy pancakes, or maybe some runny scrambled eggs and toast.

Even if it didn't taste that great, our mother still ate it.

My mom often laughs about it now, but when we look as old photos, her wardrobe never really changed very much.

For special occasions such as birthdays, baptisms, graduations, she always wore the same dress.

My mom gave up a lot for us so that my brothers and I never went without anything.

Instead of buying herself new things, she always made sure we had what we needed first, whether it was school supplies, a new pair of shows, or maybe a new pair of glasses.

It's because of her that I have so many fond memories of dance and music lessons.

And even though I was more likely to get hit in the head with a soccer ball than actually score a goal, my mom still cheered me on when I played soccer in the summertime.

I didn't always understand what my mother did for me when I was growing up and I might not have always appreciated it.

But my mom did so much for me, whether it was spending hours at night helping me with math homework, or taking care of me when I was sick.

The best part of all is that she still always encourages me and constantly tells me how proud she is to have a daughter like me.

Now that I'm a little older, I understand a little better all the things my mom has done for me.

Mother's Day is almost here and I am still scratching my head —how can I possibly ever find a special token to give to her to show how much I care?

I guess there is only one way.

Thanks, mom.

If you would like to leave me feedback, call me at (905) 871-3100 ext. 208 or send me an email at sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

opinion page

Centre's peace lodge has been destroyed

Dear Editor,

Often we outreach to our community to let everyone know of the various programs that we offer to all of our community, native and non-native alike.

We are passionate about our mission statement "To enhance all aspects of native life, while extending friendship to the community."

We believe that we embody tolerance, respect and integrity when helping people of all backgrounds.

It is with this in mind that brings us great sadness to find that on Monday, May 7, when we returned to the centre we found our sacred purification lodge was destroyed.

It is through this lodge that many people, native and non-native, have found healing, personal, spiritual growth and have connected to the Creator over many, many years.

It has been said by a wise man that the Spirit is more than the sum of all our parts and spirituality is how that interacts with all of creation.

Although we are saddened to find this lack of respect, in a usually respectful, supportive community, we refuse to take up this offer of negativity.

We will rebuild our sacred purification lodge.

We will take this opportunity to share teachings on the building and care of a Lodge with our people to strengthen our traditional culture.

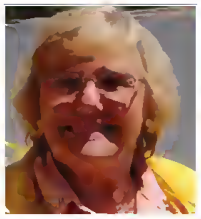
Therefore, to the person or people who thought that they could use hate to destroy something sacred, please know that it didn't work.

We will still walk with our values of respect, friendship, humility, integrity and traditionalism. We retain our vision of "together for a stronger tomorrow".

Jackie Labonte
Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre

The TIMES Asks

How will you be spending Mother's Day?



Patricia Cartwright

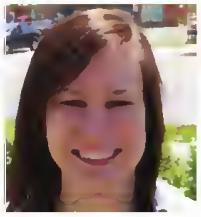
"I'll probably be cooking for my son and husband."

Kari McCullagh

"I'll probably be having a BBQ and spending quality time with my family."

Ruth Sparks

"Unfortunately, I have to work...but I'll make sure to give my mom a big hug before I leave."



Ashlea Carter

"I'll be spending the day with my family, then go for dinner at my Grandma's."

What do you think?

E–mail: editorial@forterietimes.com or call 905–871–3100, ext. 207

Where is the province when IWTs hum?

Dear Editor,

The Canadian Press reported on Apr. 20, 2012 that a "Windsor Hum" described as a low frequency sound had sparked complaints from residents in Windsor for over a year.

A federal study suggested the hum could be coming from the U.S. side of Detroit River from an industrial site in the general area of Zug Island .

Federal Foreign Affairs minister John Baird stated that they were prepared to collaborate with stakeholders and other levels of government so that potential mitigation measures could be implemented .

Jim Bradley, Ontario's Minister of Environment said his ministry had received close to 500 complaints impacting the day to day lives of residents.

Mr. Bradley has sent letters to municipal, state and federal officials in the U.S. last month asking them to take action on the problem.

Data from specialized monitoring equipment installed from June 15 to Aug. 25 of 2011 confirmed the "low humming rumbling noise pollution " was acoustical vibration.

Because the Michigan River Rouge council refused to take action on the report Bradley then asked the Environmental Protection agency to investigate for a possible solution to the problem.

Mr. Bradley has taken several courses of action on the "Windsor Hum" urban complaints and yet totally disregards the rural Industrial Wind Turbine (IWT) issue.

Apparently there are two sets of standards in play, one for the urban citizens and another for the rural.

From the Shelburne projects alone there were over 1000 complaints from documented e-mails, reports and memos received by the MOE.

This information was accessed from the Freedom of Information Act by Dave Seglins and John Nicol CBC news reporters on Sept. 20, 2011.

In fact the MOE downplayed the health complaints that dated as far back as 2006.

Bradley stated in an article in the Standard on Jan 24, 2012 that the province will not reverse it's course on the controversial plan with wind projects even though the OFA and 79 Municipalities have called for a moratorium till health studies could be done.

Bradley further stated that Ontario with its minimum 550 meters has the strictest setback criteria in North America.

With some research on his part he would have found that numerous other jurisdictions have enacted or recommended laws or bylaws to regulate a "Setback" distance of 2km to 10 km for IWT's for the safety of their citizens .

It appears that some other countries are more responsive to the safety of their citizenry than the Ontario government.

In fact the MOE places roadblocks to the IWT's appeals process.

The Environmental Review Tribunal (ERT) has a mandate to hear challenges to projects that may pose risk of harm to humans, animals, wildlife and plant life .

With the Zephyer Wind Project appeal in Watford the MOE asked for a dismissal of the appeal.

The tribunal denied it. The MOE next requested that the Scope of the evidence be limited that request was also denied.

Just days before the hearings were to begin on March 8, the MOE further requested that medical records be presented dating back 10 years of twenty health impact victims that were scheduled to testify.

An ERT hearing scheduled to start on May 28 in Haldimand on the 58 unit Summerhaven Project now has an MOE representative signalling her intent to have the appeals thrown out.

Just who are the MOE working for?

Who are they taking directives from or have they lost vision of their Mandate? These questions need to be answered.

Unfortunately, with industrial wind turbines we all lose socially, economically and environmentally but most of all our Canadian sense of justice, decency and democracy are undermined.

Helen Kszan

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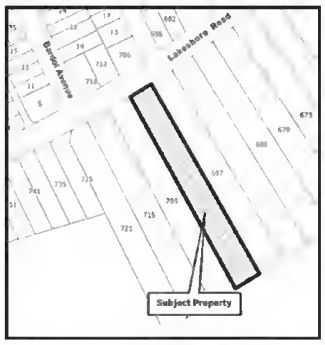
PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION AND PUBLIC MEETING

ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT – 0 LAKESHORE ROAD (SOUTH SIDE)
OWNER: KEN AND SHARON ANDREWS

DATE: June 11, 2012
TIME: 6:00PM
LOCATION: TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

LOCATION OF SUBJECT LANDS



PROPOSED CHANGE

A Zoning By-law Amendment application has been received for the property located on the south side of Lakeshore Road, east of Bardol Avenue, west of Lilian Place, being Part of Block 11 acres south of Lakeshore Road. The subject property is zoned Residential 1 R1 Zone and Hazard H Zone in the Town's Comprehensive Zoning By-law 129-90. The applicant requests permission to construct a single detached dwelling to be located 15.1 metres (49.54 feet) from the 1-in-100 year flood elevation as determined by the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority, whereas Section 6.47 of Comprehensive Zoning By-law No. 129-90 requires a minimum setback of 30 metres (98.43 feet).

HAVE YOUR SAY

Input on the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the Public Meeting or by making a written submission to the Town. Please note that unless you do one of the above now, you may not be able to appeal the decision later.

MORE INFORMATION

For further information please contact Matt Kernahan, Senior Development Planner at (905) 871-1600 extension 2507. A copy of the information report will be available to the public on June 8, 2012. The information report will be available in the Council agenda portion of the Town's Web Site: www.town.forterie.on.ca or from the Community and Development Services Department.

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision of the Zoning By-law Amendment, please send a letter c/o the Town Clerk Carolyn Kett, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6

PLANNING ACT LEGAL NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

The Town of Fort Erie has not yet made a decision regarding this application.

After considering any written comments and the comments from the public meeting, Council-in-Committee at this meeting will consider a recommendation report on the Zoning By-law Amendment application.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the By-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Fort Erie to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the By-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board, unless in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If you do not attend the public meeting but wish to be notified of the adoption of the Zoning By-law Amendment, you are required to make a written request to the Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk and such request should include the name and address to which such notice should be sent.

Dated this 12th day of May, 2012

Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk — **Richard F. Brady, Director of Community and Development Services**

(2) NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION AND PUBLIC MEETING

REVISED DRAFT PLAN OF SUBDIVISION
0 THUNDERBAY ROAD (RIDGEWAY BY THE LAKE PHASE 3)
APPLICANT: UPPER CANADA CONSULTANTS
OWNER: RIDGEWAY ESTATES PHASE 3 LTD. (ROBERT MILLS)

DATE: June 11, 2012
TIME: 6:00PM
LOCATION: TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

LOCATION OF SUBJECT LANDS

PROPOSED CHANGE

In 2008, an application for a Plan of Subdivision was received for the lands located at 3444 Thunderbay Road to permit the development of 50 single detached dwellings, 39 townhouse dwellings and 2 open space blocks. The Draft Plan of Subdivision was approved by the Ontario Municipal Board in January 2010.

The applicant has submitted a revised Draft Plan that proposes to remove the private open space blocks from the subdivision. These blocks are located to the east of Ridgeway by the Lake Phase 2 and to the west of the lots on Maple Leaf Avenue. The applicant wishes to merge these blocks with adjacent lots rather than have these blocks owned privately by the Ridgeway by the Lake Property Association. The use of these lands is restricted to "Landscaped Open Space" in accordance with the Town's Comprehensive Zoning By-law 129-90. The effect of the proposed redline revision will be to bring the open space lands under the ownership of the individual abutting property owners.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Input on the proposed redline revision is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the Public Meeting or by making a written submission to the Town. Please note that unless you do one of the above now, you may not be able to appeal the decision later.

MORE INFORMATION

For further information please contact Matt Kernahan, Senior Development Planner at (905) 871-1600 extension 2507 or Kira Oolch, Manager of Development Approvals at extension 2502. A copy of the information report will be available to the public on June 8, 2012. The information report will be available in the Council agenda portion of the Town's Web Site: www.town.forterie.on.ca or from the Community and Development Services Department.

WRITTEN SUBMISSION

To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision of the redline revision, please send a letter c/o the Town Clerk Carolyn Kett, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario, L2A 2S6

PLANNING ACT LEGAL NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

The Town of Fort Erie has not yet made a decision regarding this application.

After considering any written comments and the comments from this public meeting, Planning Staff will prepare a future recommendation report for consideration by Council-in-Committee.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie before the Town of Fort Erie gives, or refuses to give approval to the revised Draft Plan of Subdivision, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Town of Fort Erie to the Ontario Municipal Board in respect of the proposed Plan of Subdivision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Fort Erie in respect of the proposed Plan of Subdivision before the Town of Fort Erie gives, or refuses to give approval to the revised Draft plan of Subdivision, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board, unless in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Town of Fort Erie in respect of the proposed Plan of Subdivision, you are required to make a written request to the Carolyn Kett, Town Clerk and such request should include the name and address to which such notice should be sent.

Dated this 12th day of May, 2012

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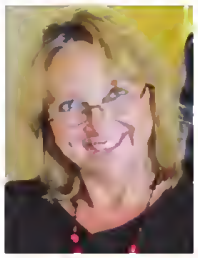

Karen Audet
Operations Manager

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Chamber News

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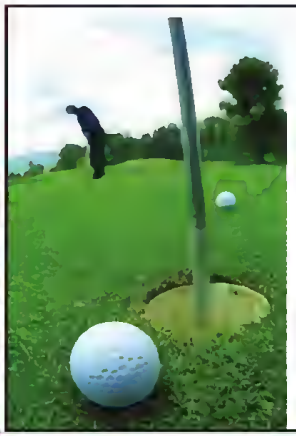
- Robinson's Marine Interiors
- Bill's Toyota Sales
- Danner House Bed & Breakfast
- Kelsey's Restaurant
- Fort Erie Optimist Club/ OMETTES
- South Niagara Community Futures Development Corporation
- Swimming Along– *Aquarium Rentals & Maintenance*
- Lakeshore Bed & Breakfast
- Trinity Life Church



Greater Fort Erie Chamber of Commerce

Mayor's Drive Fore Business Golf Tournament

Monday, June 25

Bridgewater Country Club

Enjoy use of driving range,
18 holes of golf with cart, registration gift,
BBQ lunch, steak dinner, prizes!
4 person scramble format
Tee off at 1:00 sharp!

Entry fee $150 per player

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Wednesday, May 16 from 11:30—3:30 p.m. at the Buffalo Canoe Club,4475 Erie Road, Ridgeway

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KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Reinhold Nagel sounds off 'Call to Post' before the second race of the Fort Erie Racetrack's opening day.

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Regina Sealock rides 'Call to Serve' to victory in the first race of the 115th season at the Fort Erie Racetrack, last Sunday.

Double wins for trainer and jockey on opening day

115th season at historic border oval in full force

Kris Dubé
Fort Erie Times

The Fort Erie Racetrack's opening day has come flying out of the gate for the 115th year in a row.

On Sunday, the local community swarmed to the historic border oval for opening day of the track.

Sunny skies and a ten-race card would allow for the race day to be a success.

It all began at 12 p.m. with fans bringing in their Fort Erie Racetrack memorabilia to be loaned to the track for display during the 2012 season. Dan Barrett, an avid collector of sports memorabilia and Ruby Smith, from the Fort Erie Heritage Arts Legacy Council were busy evaluating numerous types of items... including photos, clothing, programs and artwork.

The memorabilia will be displayed in anew glass case located next to customer service.

"People brought some wonderful items," said Barrett.

Horse trainer Gary Chudobiak certainly had the start to the season he was hoping for, winning the first race of Sunday's card with 'Call to Serve,' a filly just recently acquired by his stable. Going into the day, Chudobiak said he had high hopes for the horse.

"She showed her stuff opening day, that's for sure," he said.

Call to Serve was ridden by jockey Regina Sealock.

Chudobiak's team, with owner Dale Powell, also won the fifth race of the day with Ideals and Dreams, ridden by jockey Howard Newell.

The stable had six horses running on Sunday's card and were able to pull off two big victories.

"It's a great start for the barn and it gets the morale up right away," said Chudobiak.

The trainer says earning victories goes beyond his and the owner's role on the team, it's everyone who works for them who helps with assembling a competitive group of horses.

> "It's a great start for the barn and it gets the morale up right away."
>
> —*Gary Chudobiak*

See Page 15

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Crescent Park Improvement Association plants native grass to rejuvinate beach

Project will improve beach's overall atmosphere

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

Many may not take notice of the recent planting along the entrance into Crescent Beach.

But these young plants will imrpove the area so future generations can enjoy the beach too.

Members of the Crescent Park Improvement Association (CPIA) and the Bert Miller Nature Club planted American Beach grass on Crescent Beach on Earth Day.

It has been roped off from the public to protect it. The hope is that the grass will help the beach become a healthier one, says June Chipp, founder of the CPIA.

Chipp says the CPIA is a newly formed group that is dedicated to improvement Crescent Park and the beach is part of the area,

The group had to first get rid of a lot of unsightly weeds and brush from the beach and they replaced it with the beach grass that was donated by local resident Sue Weidman, who has a large stand of beach grass on her property and has an established Fowler's Toad population there because of the grass, says Chipp.

> **"If the grass is still alive later in the summer, we know everything will be good."**
> *— June Chipp*

She says the beach has lost a large amount of sand over the last few years and the grass will help the beach retain its sand.

"We planted American beach grass that retains the sand. When the sand washes up on the shore, the plants retain the sand and it helps form sand dunes."

Chipp adds that Botonist Albert Garofalo, who is an expert on plants native to Lake Erie's shore, was part of the planting to ensure the livelihood of the grass.

Members of the CBIA will periodically check the beach grass over the summer to make sure it is thriving.

"If the grass is still alive later in the summer we know everything will be good."

If the beach grass is successful, Chipp says the CBIA plans on planting more grass to improve the beach.

For more information about the CBIA and how to get involved in any of their projects, contact Chipp by e-mail at cresb123@hotmail.com

SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Members of the Crescent Park Improvement Association, including founder June Chipp, Ward 3 Coun. Bob Steckley, Sue Weidman and Cheryl Schonewille, planted native American beach grass on Crescent Beach to help rejuvenate the beach.

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Saturday Events

9:30am	Gate Opens Nickel Sale - Centennial Arena
10:00am-5:00pm	Niagara-on-the-Lake Minor Soccer Tournament
10:00am-8:00pm	HOME & LEISURE SHOW - Both Arenas
11:00am, 3:00pm, 7:00pm	MOTORCYCLE SHOW - Tennis Courts
11:00am-6:00pm	Air Cadets - Promoting their organization
12:00pm, 2:00pm, 5:00pm	TREVOR BODOGH - Stunt Bicycle Rider Near the Tennis Courts
12:00pm	BINGO - all afternoon
2:00pm-4:00pm	Mad Science - Meridian Arena
4:00pm	MUG BOG - ATV's, Dirt Bikes and Small Trucks Competing

Sunday Events

11:00am	Regular price all day on amusement rides
11:00am-8:00pm	HOME & LEISURE SHOW
Noon-6:00pm	Nickel Sale - Centennial Arena
2:00pm-4:00pm	Mad Science - Meridian Arena

Amusement Rides

SATURDAY & MONDAY 11:00am-5:00pm	"PAY ONE PRICE" Ride during those hours for $27 - Regular Price Also Available
SATURDAY ONLY 6:00pm-11:00pm	"PICK A PARTNER" One person pays full price and one rides free

Monday Events

9:30am	Gate Opens Nickel Sale - Centennial Arena
10:00am-5:00pm	Niagara-on-the-Lake Minor Soccer Tournament
10:00am-6:00pm	HOME & LEISURE SHOW - Both Arenas
11:00am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm	MOTORCYCLE SHOW - Tennis Courts
11:00am-6:00pm	Air Cadets - Promoting their organization
12:00pm	BINGO - afternoon & evening
12:00pm-5:00pm	LONDON REPTILES - Educating the children on the care of reptiles & amphibians
12:00pm, 3:00pm, 7:00pm	TIM HOLLAND - COMEDY STUNT VENTRILOQUIST SHOW
2:00pm-4:00pm	Mad Science - Meridian Arena
9:30pm	FIREWORKS

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Nutritional advice

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Kathleen Weagant gets some nutritional advice from Bridge's Community Health Centre dietician Maureen Gall at a health and wellness fair hosted by Our Lady of Victory School on Wednesday.

Safari Niagara bringing popular recording artists to town

Blue Rodeo, Collective Soul and Big Wreck coming to Stevensville

Kris Dubé
Fort Erie Times

Niagara music fans will have more than just a handful of tribute acts to enjoy, during this summer's concert series at Safari Niagara, in Stevensville.

Last year, accomplished 70's rock group Three Dog Night performed for over 3,000 fans and this summer the likes of Blue Rodeo, Collective Soul and Big Wreck will all hit the stage, with special guests at each show.

"We were happy with the attendance and we decided to take it to the next level this year," said Safari Niagara general manager Tim Tykolis.

Hitting the stage will be Big Wreck on July 6, Blue Rodeo on July 20 and Collective Soul on Aug. 10.

Bringing in big North American recording artists like these, doesn't mean the venue has discontinued its relationship with the Classic Albums Live collective of musicians, as there will be a rendition of U2's 'Joshua Tree' on June 22 and Pink Floyd's 'Dark Side of the Moon' on Aug. 24.

Tykolis said the local bandshell isn't something he wants to see limited to only a few concerts per year. Since it was built, it has served as a concert venue and also a place for corporate events and fundraisers.

But it can go beyond that, he agreed.

"We don't have blinders on and we don't close doors," Tykolis told the Fort Erie Times.

"We want to utilize it more than we have been."

While most Classic Albums live shows are under $20, the Blue Rodeo and Collective Soul concerts will be $38. Big Wreck will be $19.97. These three shows will also not be part of the 2012 season membership.

The 90,000-square-foot amphitheatre on Stevensville Rd. can accommodate up to 5,000 people.

Jim Cuddy, left, Greg Keelor and the rest of Blue Rodeo are heading to Safari Niagara this summer. The iconic Canadian group plays the park's amphitheatre July 20.

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Therapy Alternatives for Children and Adults (TASC) Niagara wants to let the community know what they are all about. On Wednesday, May 23, there will be an open house at the Crystal Ridge Community Centre from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The group is hoping people will sign up as a performer, a volunteer buddy or someone who can help with costumes, scenery or fundraising. There is also a golf tournament on June 24. For more information, visit www.tascperformingarts.org or call Nancy Kacur at (905) 894-1768.

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Sunday, May 13

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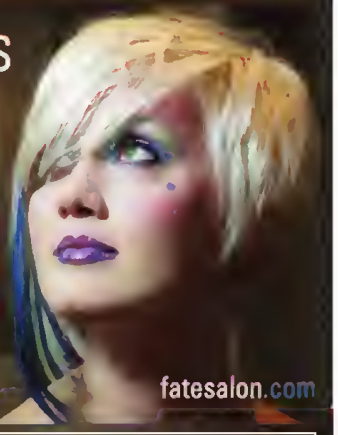

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Dodge.ca/Offers

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Early years

SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Parents, children and their teachers recently celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Ontario Early Years program. Children ages six and under participated in crafts, games and other fun activities at the program's satellite site at Crystal Beach Public School.

Jockey forgets last season's struggles on opening day

From Page 10

"Everyone works extremely hard for us and it's a team effort more than anything," said Chudobiak.

Consistency and patience are two key components of having a successful season, says the trainer. But looking at the larger picture, he says it is of great importance that he and his fellow horsemen do everything they can to fill the fields all season long.

"Hopefully that carries into a future for the track," said Chudobiak.

Regina Sealock is thrilled about her first day in the dirt, winning two races throughout the day....one with Chudobiak's Call to Serve and the second with trainer Wilf Jones' Instant Appeal in the third run on Sunday.

"I'm off on the right foot," she said.

Sealock said last season, was one she would like to forget, as she didn't have much success with winning.

"For the first time in 26 years, I didn't make a living racing," she said.

But now her outlook has widened and she looks a head to the rest of the 2012 meet.

Aside from staying healthy, Sealock says she is aiming her focus on "wins and more wins" to ride out the season.

Over the years, opening day at the border oval has usually taken place on Kentucky Derby Day. This year, a pre-season Derby party was held as a standalone promotion, with opening day being held on Sunday after the Derby on Saturday.

"The decision to break away from the traditional Kentucky Derby live opening proved to be a success from a financial and customer response standpoint," said the track's chief operating officer Rick Cowan.

Up next on the schedule will be Mother's Day on Sunday, May 13.

A free jockey's autograph session will take place from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. with a special Mother's Day buffet taking place in the Prince of Wales Dining Room. For reservations, you can call (905) 871-3200 ext. 3617.

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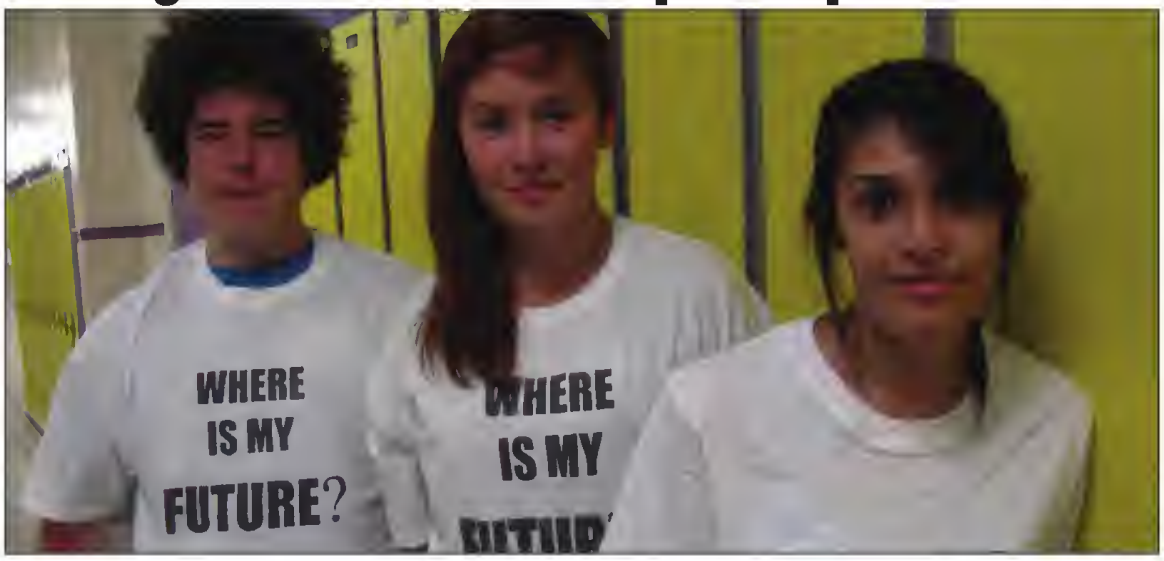
Writing letters with the hope the premier will listen to their voices



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Grade 10 students Jordon Staroba, Maya Nestoruk and Nicole Rathunath, at Fort Erie Secondary School, wrote letters to Premier Dalton McGuinty on behalf of their Civics class, to express their concern about the closure of the Slots-at-Fort-Erie Racetrack.

FESS students write letters to Dalton McGuinty, sharing their concerns about the community

Sarah Ferguson
The Times

When class began at the beginning of the semester, Kim Duggan hoped her students would develop an understanding for politics and social issues both on a global and local scale.

The Grade 10 Civics teacher taught what was happening around the world, using 'what if' scenarios to engage her students in a discussion to become informed citizens about the world.

When the class heard about the closure of the slots in Fort Erie, they decided to talk about the social issues happening right outside the door of their very own classroom.

And the students wanted to do something more than just talk about it.

That's when the class nominated three representatives to write letters to Premier Dalton McGuinty about how they felt, and the affects the slots closure would have on the community.

Nicole Rathunath, Maya Nestoruk and Jordon Staroba were ready for the challenge of writing three very important letters to the premier.

Rathunath's family is directly affected by the decision to close the slots because both of her parents work at the Fort Erie Racetrack.

The student says her family is thinking about moving out of the Niagara region—possibly to Toronto so they can continue working in the horse racing industry at the Woodbine Racetrack.

Rathunath says she isn't thrilled about the idea of moving away from Fort Erie, but it's a possibility because there isn't much left in town—schools are closing, there's no hospital and there aren't many jobs.

See Page 17

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Youth feel slot closures will have ripple effect throughout the community

From Page 16

"Everyone keeps telling us we are the future. We should care about what is happening here."

— Nicole Rathunath

Rathunath says she thinks everyone should care about the closure of the slots, including other teenagers her age.

"Everyone keeps telling us we are the future. We should care about what is happening here."

Although no one in her family is directly involved with the slots or the racetrack, Nestoruk says "there will be a ripple effect" for everyone.

Nestoruk's mother is a part time waitress and time will only confirm what many people already know. Many businesses, including restaurants, will see a decline in sales because there will be no way to draw tourists to Fort Erie and it will hurt the economy, the teen says.

This decision made by the government won't just impact business, it will hurt other things too, says Staroba.

The FESS student says he does have a few relatives who have worked at the slots for 15 years and "now, they've lost their jobs because the government took them away."

Many people think they are not affected by this, but they will be, Staroba adds.

"There's no chance we'll be getting Douglas Memorial Hospital back, taxes will go up and other expenses will go up."

Nestoruk says she, Rathunath and Staroba didn't find it difficult to put into words what they wanted to say to McGuinty.

"It really was a simple process. We've all been talking about it at home and in class. We had a good idea about the issues we wanted to address."

While the three students wrote letters to the premier, the rest of the class designed T-shirts with the slogan "Where is my future?"

The class had planned a meeting with MPP Kim Craitor in Queen's Park last Tuesday to personally deliver the letters to him and tour the legislature, says Duggan.

Unfortunately, the class was unable to come due to financial reasons, but Craitor intends to visit FESS next week to accept the letters and deliver them to the premier.

Duggan says she hopes her class will inspire more of the youth in town to take action, whether it's discussing the closure of the slots, or writing a letter to their government.

"I hope there is a positive result in the community from their efforts.

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Placing Old Age Security on a Sustainable Path

Canadians are living longer and costs for the Old Age Security (OAS) are rising.

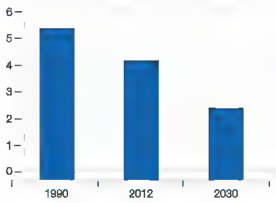
On April 1, 2023 the Government of Canada plans to start raising the age of eligibility for OAS and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) from 65 to 67.*

What does this mean for you?

54 or older as of March 31, 2012	You may still obtain OAS/GIS at age 65
53 or younger as of March 31, 2012	The age of eligibility for OAS/GIS will change gradually between 2023 and 2029

Starting in July 2013, Canadians who are eligible for, but not yet receiving OAS will have the flexibility to delay receiving it in exchanga for a highar monthly amount at a latar data.

The number of working-age Canadians for every senior is decreasing**



**Source: 9th Actuarial Report on the Old Age Security Program

The number of working-age Canadians per senior is decreasing, placing additional pressure on the OAS program.

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*Subject to parliamentary approval

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Canada

'Whosarmy' and Amber Reigns will rock the stage at the Sanctuary

The Sanctuary Centre for the Arts is hosting another exciting concert featuring Whosarmy on May 26.

Whosarmy is a rock band from Toronto consisting of friends Travis Wood singing, Cory Williams on guitar with Max Trefler on drums and Greg Markham on bass.

The group began performing the club circuit in Toronto and they released their first self-titled album last year which offered audiences eight original songs.

Whosarmy recently competed on and won CBC's hit show Cover Me Canada where they performed some of Canada's most iconic songs including American Woman by The Guess Who, Ironic by Alanis Morrisette and Hallelujah by Leonard Cohen.

Because of the show, Whosarmy received $100,000 and a single recording contract with Universal Canada.

Whosarmy released an original single "Alive" which was produced by Ron Fair and reached six on the iTunes Canada Rock charts in under three days. The song, which was co-written by Chantal Kreviazuk, was performed by Whosarmy on George Stroumboulopoulous Tonight.

Whosarmy is currently writing new material for their upcoming record which will be produced by Gavin Brown.

The band is also actively collaborating with notable songwriters such as Dave Genn, Todd Clark and Hawksley Workman.

Also performing at the Sanctuary on May 26 is Amber Reigns.

Amber Reigns is a band that writes about social issues.

Nick McGuigan, Enzo Herrera, perform vocals and guitar.

Chris Rowlands performs vocals and bass, and Josh Humphrey rounds out the sound on drums.

They write about today's experiences of homelessness, substance abuse and other social causes.

The band's name was created as a reference to Amber Alert, a cause the band feels very strongly about.

Their song, Calm Me Down, was inspired by a trip to Toronto where a homeless man asked McGuigan for money. He went into the sub shop and purchased him a sub and a drink. About 15 minutes later, the songwriter expressed his feelings onto paper.

Amber Reigns performed this song acoustically live on a local radio station in Welland and their first album received great reviews from local critics in the Niagara region.

Amber Reigns were also on the list of the top 22 indie bands in Canada by In Discover, and then they signed a two-year deal with Voodoo Records in 2012.

Both Whosarmy and Amber Reigns will perform at the Sanctuary on Ridge Road in Ridgeway.

Doors are open at 8, show starts at 9. Please see the info about the 2 bands below.

For more information about the show phone 905-894-8373.

Keeping the beat

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Over 50 students at Garrison Road Public School have been keeping the beat, learning about bucket drumming. The group of young percussionists recently performed for a crowd at the Home Depot in St. Catharines.

Collective agreement reached

The Town of Fort Erie and its unionized employees have a new, two-year collective agreement, which has averted a possible work stoppage.

In closed session, at Monday's council-in-committee meeting, council ratified a tentative agreement with the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) and its Local 714.

Under the deal, there will be a zero increase in wage rates for two years.

Union employees receive a lump sum payment of $500 this year and $750 in 2013.

There are also minor adjustments to group medical benefits and improved contract language regarding staffing and hours of work.

"Credit is due to the local membership for accepting a fair and reasonable settlement that reflects current economic realities," said Ron Tripp, the Town of Fort Erie's interim chief administrative officer.

The last collective agreement between the Town and CUPE Local 714 expired at the end of 2011 and both sides have been meeting since then.

The union represents approximately 80 full-time and casual employees in both office and operation jobs.

Also on Monday night, council approved a zero per cent increase in wages for all non-union Town employees for 2012 and 2013.

Also, council voted to freeze the re-numeration for the mayor and councillors through 2013.

Cost sharing agreement worries councillor

From Page 3

The NPCA needs to provide the permit, because the Fowler's Toad is considered a species at risk and exists along the shoreline of Lake Erie, which is near where the condo building will be erected.

He asked if the habitat will sit in the "roped off area" that the project's plans show.

Richard Brady, the Town of Fort Erie's director of community planning and development told Lubberts that nothing has been altered and that the habitat will exist in the same location it has planned to be for a long time.

"The area that has been identified as a toad habitat, is the same area identified in the site plan," said Brady.

"There are no changes to the site plans required, with the information we have to date," he added.

Lubberts also moved on to question whether or not local residents would have to pay for required maintenance to the toad habitat area, saying it was his understanding that local taxpayers would need to pitch in for it.

He was referring to a cost sharing agreement between the Town of Fort Erie and the Molinaro Group, which he feels could be more clear about who will have to pay for what and how much.

"I don't think we should be expecting the taxpayer to pay for the toad habitat," said Lubberts.

Brady responded by saying that the Molinaro Group, along with a condominium association that will be struck once the building is occupied, will be responsible for costs. This will be discussed more thoroughly when the next report on the topic is brought to council.

"The issue of the (cost-sharing) agreement will be back in June and it can be debated then," said Brady.

Lubberts has also asked that his concerns about how much beach land will be designated for the toad area be included in the report that will be presented in June.

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Learning about literacy

SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Friends Milana Pasquariello and Jassie Teal attended Fort Erie Family Literacy Day. Activities, crafts and entertainment that inspired a passion for reading were scheduled at the Leisureplex, YMCA and Town Hall.

Brave to shave

SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Sarah Cochrane and Charity Nigro were brave when they shaved their locks off and donated them to be made into wigs for people with cancer. The girls also raised $2,500 for Alivia's Rainbows, an organization that helps families with children fighting cancer.

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In the jungle

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Leading cast members of Stevensville Public School's production of the Lion King pose for a photo, to encourage the local community to attend one of four performances that will take place between May 16 and 17. There will be a 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. performance each day and cost of admission is five dollars. There are over 70 students involved in the play, from grades one to eight. Tickets can be reserved by phoning the school at (905) 382- 3122.

Informational luncheon about disabilities in the workplace

The Fort Erie Rotary Club, along with Community Loving, want to help build the local workforce.

On May 22, both organizations will offer a presentation and informational luncheon for local employers to learn about the importance of hiring individuals with disabilities and the number of success stories that can result from it.

There will be two keynote speakers discussing the topic and registration will end on May 16.

The event takes place from noon until 1 p.m. and will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion, Br. 71.

To register, contact Raye Brown at (905) 871-3450 or rayebrown1953@gmail.com.

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The Niagara Parks Commission Public Information Centres

Tuesday, May 15, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 16, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The public are invited to attend sessions to review three major construction projects that are proposed for undertaking by The Niagara Parks Commision:

- Relocation of the Niagara Parkway in the area south of Table Rock
- Year-round/fully accessible Incline Railway
- Repairs at Oakes Garden Theatre

The two sessions will take place in the Restaurant at Whirlpool Public Golf Course, 3351 Niagara Parkway (7 km north of Niagara Falls). Free parking is available on site.

For more information please contact:
Tony Baldinelli, Acting Director
Communication, Marketing & Stakeholder Relations
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Walking for a cause

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Last Sunday, over 100 hundred people took part in a fundraising walk to support multiple sclerosis research. The annual event is organized by Scuttlebutt's Tap and Eatery in Stevensville. This year, about $7,300 was raised by participants.

Raising awareness

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

May is awareness month for the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada. Last week, Mollie Lee, her husband Johnathan, daughter Ella and Johnathan's support worker Tania Held joined mayor Doug Martin for a flag raising at Town Hall.

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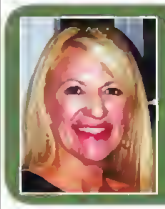

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Former NHL referee being added to Wall of Fame

Local resident called the shots in 247 big league games during career

Kris Dubé
Fort Erie Times

A local resident who knows all about "calling the shots" is one of this year's inductees onto the Fort Erie Sports Wall of Fame.

Craig Spada served as a referee with the National Hockey League (NHL) from 2001 until 2007, officiating in a total of 247 regular season games.

His first was a game between the Detroit Red Wings and the Nashville Predators, which is one he will always remember... taking control of a game at Detroit's Joe Louis Arena.

"Your first game is always your biggest," said Spada.

"That's a pretty great place to do it," he added.

Spada, who is now a local real estate agent, feels privileged that he was able to stay involved in the sport of hockey for so long, at such a high level, long after his playing career came to a close.

"I wasn't good enough to play, but I was able to stay in the game at a pro level for a number of years," said Spada.

The most difficult part of his career wearing the black and white, wasn't the pressure or scrutiny from hockey fans. It was the amount of time it kept him away from his wife and two children.

"That's why I had to pack it in," said Spada, who also pointed out that his wife Alison was always supportive of his chosen career.

"But I missed my daughter's whole first year of kindergarten and that killed me," he said.

When asked about his thoughts on this season's NHL playoffs, Spada said he didn't have much of an opinion on who he thought might make it to the Stanley Cup finals, because his love of hockey has now been overshadowed by his interest in horse racing.

"My hobby has switched from hockey to horses," said Spada, who owns quarter horses that will be on a few cards at the Fort Erie Racetrack later this season.

"To be honest, I haven't watched much hockey this year," he laughed.

Spada says he is thrilled to be added to the local sports shrine, joining the company of many other accomplished athletes that are already placed on it.

"There are a lot of athletes that have come out of Fort Erie and done very well," said Spada.

A very modest individual, he also looks forward to future generations of his family seeing their last name perched on the wall of fame.

"To see the Spada name on the wall, will be pretty exciting."

Spada also officiated game seven of the Calder Cup in 2002, the final series of the American Hockey League.

He continues to work with the Ontario Hockey League, educating up-and-coming officials about their craft.

The Fort Erie Sports Wall of Fame dinner and ceremony, hosted by the Fort Erie Kinsmen Club, will be held on June 15. Tickets can be purchased for $50 each by calling the law office of Michael George at 905-871-8705.

> **"I wasn't good enough to play, but I was able to stay in the game at a pro level for a number of years."**
>
> *— Craig Spada*

Craig Spada is one of this year's inductees onto the Fort Erie Sports Wall of Fame. He refereed 247 games in the National Hockey League.

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12563477

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Apartments Unfurnished A610

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12576812

Apartments Unfurnished A610

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12574672

NEWLY RENOVATED, Willow Motel, Lundy's Lane,Niagara Falls. Femily suite, $800. Room $500 monthly, **Call (289)-696-8888.**
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General Employment A800

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The Fort Erie Times

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Community Services

Coming Events A940

FORT ERIE FESTIVAL Annual General Meeting, May 28, 2012, 6 p.m. at the Festival Office, 20 Lewis Street.
12575046

Person to Person A956

Thank you God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, St. Jude & Guardian Angels for anawering prayers. AH
12572551

Coming Events A940

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED FOR THE MERRITTON LABOUR DAY PARADE
Looking for Bands, Floats, Dancers, Cars, etc. For the annual Labour Day Parade, Sept 3rd, 2012
Contact Jaff White @ 905-684-3078
jwhite57@cogeco.ca

ROAST BEEF DINNER
St. John's Stevensville United Church
14789 Sodom Road, Snyder
Saturday, June 2nd
Two sittings (5:00 & 6:30 p.m.)
Adults $12 and Children under 12 $5.
For tickets call **(905)382-4645**

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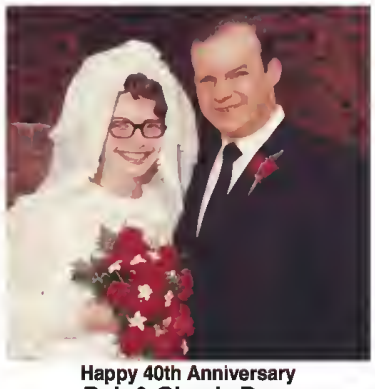
Birthday greetings

Happy Birthday and Happy 1st Mother's Day to my wife and our Mommy Sarah!!

Sundey is Mom's dey, but for you its your first Moms day. You have worked so hard for all your achievements you have in life, and the biggest one to dete is heving e fenily of your own. This day is about you being recognized as a amazing mother to our two sons, and our puppy Annabelle. You meet their every need with all your love you have in your heert. Beiley end Hunter ere e product of our love for each other, as well as our guidance we give as parents. Without their mommy, the boys would not be complete. I know the boys love mommy and show it eech and every dey. Without mommy, daddy would not be complete either. Thank you for being my wife, and the boys mommy. We love you, end I love you. I am proud of you.
Happy Mothers Day Sarah.
Love Ron, Bailey, Hunter, and Annabelle

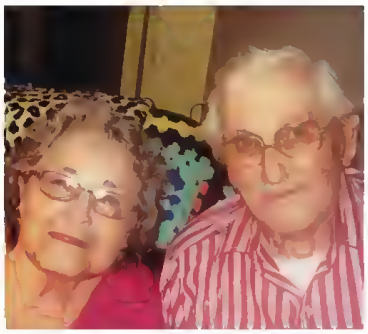
12577627

Anniversaries



Happy 40th Anniversary
Bob & Glenda Doan
May 13th
Love your Family.

12550573



Wishing a
Happy 60th Anniversary
to
Glen and Maxine McKinley
May 10th
Love, from your family

12572188

Thank You Cards

Thank You

We would like to thenk our family and friends for coming to our 50th Wedding Anniversery Celebretion. Special Thank You for our children for all the time and effort they put into making sure everything was perfect.
Joe and Delores Purpura

12577427

Benner Funeral Services Inc.
Darren Flagg
1105 Benner Rd., Fort Erie
(905) 871-0444

Service

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Deaths

DICKSON, Donald Jr. - Passed away suddenly at his home with his family by his side on Wednesday, May 9th, 2012. Donny was born in Fort Erie on March 2nd, 1956. He will be sadly missed by his loving wife Bonnie (nee Durante) and his three children, Leure (Merk DiBartolomeo), Devid Dickson and Kelsey (Jack Gibson). He will be greetly missed by his entire Durante Family, his father in law, Frank Durante, sisters in law Grace Maskell, Maria (Jim) Knowles, Gloria (Tim) Lagace and his brother in law Frank (Annette) Durante. Also survived by his mother Betty Dickson, sisters Wendy Everett, Karen (Jim) Vorstenbosch, end Diene Leonerd. Uncle Donny had many nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews thet cherished him dearly. He will be always remembered by his many friends. Predeceased by his father Donald Dickson Sr. and mother in law Lucy Durante. Don started Fort Erie Metal Products in 1985 end built it from the ground up into a successful and respected business. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES,** 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with errengements. The family will receive friends on Friday from 2-4 & 7-9. Funeral Services will be held in the Benner Funeral Chapel on Saturday at 12 noon. If so desired, donations to the charity of your choice would be epprecieted by the fenily.

12575447

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Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Announcements | More

Deaths

KING, Peggy (nee Knoups) - On Sunday, May 6th, 2012, Peggy passed away peacefully, after a courageous battle, in her 78th year. Predeceased by her first husbend John Evan Miller end survived by husband Charles, children Linda Knoop, Peul (Kelly), Merk (Eun-Jung) Miller, Susen Roy and Charlotte Gore, grandchildren Deniel, Helena, Jeck, Velery, Melanie end Shane and great grandson Elliott. Also survived by sisters Mein, Ank, and Til of Holland. Predeceased by sister Jacqueline. Peggy was a former employee of the Royal Bank in Fort Erie. Friends celled et **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME,** 722 Ridge Roed North, Ridgewey on Wednesdey from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. A service to celebrate Peggy's life was held at the funerel home on Thursday morning at 11 o'clock. Private interment to take place at Pleasantview Memorial Gardens, at a later time. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations would be epprecieted to Fort Erie Public Librery, Crystal Ridge Branch or to the Crohn's and Colitis Foundetion. Shering of memories, pictures and condolences at
www.williamsfuneralhome.ca

12572576

LAROCQUE, Diane - Surrounded by her loving family end friends Diane pessed away peacefully at Douglas Memorial Hospital on Monday May 7, 2012 in her 69th year. Diane Larocque, beloved wife of 51 years to Roy. Cherished mother of Michael (Vel), Devid & Derryl, Michele (Gery) end Margie Larocque. Loving grandmother of Derren, Jeckie, Jocelyn, Jodi, Cere, Noeh and the late Lucas. She will be sadly missed by her many great-grandchildren. She will be deeply missed by her mother Irene (Trider-Lotina) Hayhurst and her siblings Kenny Trider, Joanne Newman (Jim), Susan Duncan (Larry) and Darlene Lotina. She wes predeceesed by her sister "Aunt" Honey and by her father Michael Lotina and Eerl Trider. Diane wes actively involved in the Fratemal Order of Eagles and was also an avid bingo player. Friends called at **WILLIAMS FUNERAL HOME,** 722 Ridge Road N. Ridgeway on Friday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. A service to celebrate her life was held on Saturday morning at 10 o'clock at the funerel home. Interment followed et McAffee Cemetery, Fort Erie, followed by Reception. In memory of Diene, those who wish may make a donation to the Canadian Cancer Society or to the Fort Erie S.P.C.A. Sharing of memories, pictures and condolences at **www.williamsfuneralhome.ca.**

12574419

There is e sad end sweet remembrance,
There is memory fond and true;
There is a token of affection
And e heartache still for you.

Memoriem Verse #35
To remember e loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

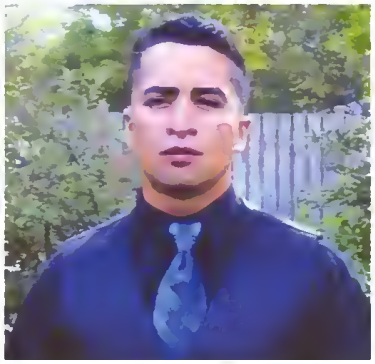
11284439

Deaths

WUJEK, Mildred J. - Mildred Wujek, beloved wife of Dick passed away at the Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo on May 8th 2012 in her 74th year. Loving daughter of Cecilia and the Late John Roma. Proud mother of Debbie Wujek and Lori Wujek. Cherished grandmother of Des (Michelle) Wujek. Also survived by her brother Jack (Carol) Roma and her sister Dawn (Ron) Davis, her sister in law Pat (Tony) Lopez, many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES,** 1105 Bender Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family received friends on Friday from 1-3 & 6-9. Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Snyder on Saturday morning at 11 o'clock. Cremation will followed. If so desired, donations to the Roswell Park Cancer Institute or the St. Joseph's Catholic Church Cemetery would be appreciated by the family.

12573987

Card of thanks



CARLOS MEJIA

The family of Carlos Mejia would like to thank everyone in the community for their support during this difficult time. A heartfelt thanks to all those for their kindness, concern and prayers are greatly appreciated.
Also a big thanks to our dear co-workers from Rich Products and Crescent Park Lodge for their thoughtful words and prayers.
A SPECIAL THANKS to the Lopez family for standing by our side and we could not have done it without you.
Words cannot express how grateful we are for everyone's support, with deep respect and love.
Carlos, we will miss you and you will always be in our hearts. We love you.
THANKS TO YOU ALL!!! The Mejia Family

12574808

Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still.

Memoriam Verse #32
To remember a loved one with this verse
Call 1-866-541-6757 Today

11284423

Card of thanks

The family of the late
Derek Robert Guhl
would like to express their sincere thanks and appreciation to relatives and friends for their love and support. Your floral tributes, food, sympathy cards and memorial donations were greatly appreciated. Thank you to Pastor Cuke, Pastor Reycroft, the kitchen staff and all of our church family at Faith Tabernacle for the beautiful Celebration of Life Service. Thank you to Hammond-Davidson Funeral Home for all their support. We will always remember everyone's kindness.
Sincerely Mary Guhl and family.

The Lord is our refuge and strength and everpresent help in time of need. Psalms 46

12575898

In memoriam

BENCH DEDICATION
In loving memory of
GUS ISOKAIT
at Sugarbowl Park
on Saturday, June 2nd
at 12:00 noon

If wishing to attend RSVP
905-871-5723 by May 25th.

12528176

In memoriam

CARROLL: Remembering loved ones who have passed away, very dear parents, Ruby (March 9, 1985) and Cecil (May 12, 1988) and loving sister Lenora (October 13, 2009).
A bouquet of roses
Especially for you,
Sprinkled with teardrops
Instead of dew,
And in the middle
A forget-me-not,
To show you
Dear Mom, Dad and Sister
We haven't forgot.
Always remembered and always loved, Jeannie & family
& the Carroll families.

12573565

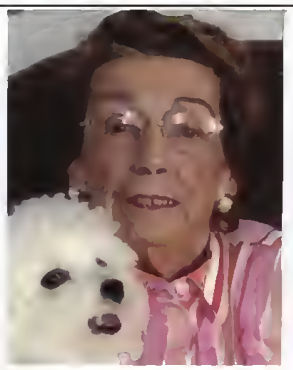
Pasquale Quaranta
In loving memory of a dear husband, father and grandfather who passed away May 13, 2010.
We thought of you with love today,
But that is nothing new,
We thought about you yesterday
And the days before that too.
We think of you in silence
We often speak your name,
Now all we have are memories
And your picture in a frame.
Your memory is our keepsake
With which we'll never part,
God has you in his keeping
We have you in our heart...
Love always, your wife Josephine, daughter Amalia and Family

12572139

Special In Memoriams 245

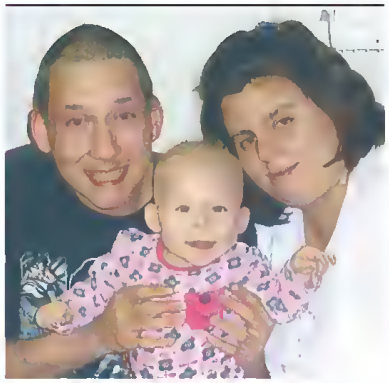
Carol-Ann Holwell
Passed away August 26, 2011
Thinking of you on Mother's Day.
You are greatly missed. I Love You.
Kim Sr.

12571537



Doris Ashton
Happy Mother's Day
We miss you.
Love, George, Linda, Jim, Wayne, Paul and Carol and Families.

12572950



In Memory of
LAVERA ROSE BARBARA BROUGHTON
May 17th
"A little angle who was taken from us much too early!"
Never forgotten, and always remembered by Daddy, Mommy, little brother Seth, and all the family.

12582903

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Young athletes delivered message about importance of education

Kris Dubé
Fort Erie Times

Without working hard in school, Derek Schiavone would never have made it to where he is today.

The Fort Erie native and kicker for the Canadian Football League's Edmonton Eskimos brought himself and five other CFL players to Our Lady of Victory (OLV) Catholic School on Thursday, for the second annual 'Pros vs. Joes' football game, which followed an assembly inside the school.

The premise of the program was to instill a message with the students about how important good grades are at a young age.

"Without education, none of us would have gone to university and had the chance to play the next level of football," said Schiavone, who is also an OLV alumni.

Pursuing a dream of becoming a sports star is something that should be encouraged, but he wants young sports fans to understand that achieving success isn't just fun and games.

"Just because you are athletically gifted, it doesn't mean you don't have to try hard in school," he added.

It's always a pleasure for the professional athlete to come back to his home town and help mentor some of its youth.

> **"I just want to give back to the community and school that means so much to me."**
>
> *— Derek Schiavone*

"I just want to give back to the community and school that means so much to me," he said.

Theresa Murphy, OLV principal, says the message delivered by Schiavone and his friends, will hopefully hit home for the students.

"Derek and his group want the students to know how important education really is," said Murphy.

"Over the course of your life, you can't just play ball all the time," added the principal.

Schiavone signed with the Eskimos in 2008 as a free agent.

In 2011, he was on the team's reserve list for the first eight games and was eventually activated for four games, placed back on the reserve list and then re-activated for the final game of the season.

He was the field goal kicker in a total of five games in 2011 and was successful with 16 of his 19 attempts.

Above the bar

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Fort Erie Secondary School (FESS) student Shaheim Shirley goes for a high-jump at Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School's Pride Field on Thursday. Other FESS students that placed in the invitational track meet were Katie Winger, who placed second in the junior girls 400-metre race and Sonia Foster, who placed first in the javelin competition. RCBHS Blue Devils that fared well in the invitational meet were Luke Cullis, who won the 100-metre sprint hurdles competition, Levi Mackenzie, winning senior boys javelin, Elijak Kalenuik, who placed first in the 100-metre dash, with Darren Pereira coming in second place. Tyler Smith won junior boys pole vaulting, Dalton Matiasz took home first in junior boys discus. Kristen Kuhn won the 1500-metre run and placed second in the 800-metre race. Mary Lapp placed second in the 800-metre run.

Fort Erie ~ A Community In Bloom

Communities in Bloom / Collectivités en fleurs

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM PROGRAM INFORMATION

Communities in Bloom is a Canadian non-profit organization committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility, beautification and to improving quality of life through community participation and the challenge of a national program with focus on the protection and conservation of green spaces.

"People, plants and pride...growing together" is our slogan, and it captures the essence of the program.

History
National beautification programs have flourished in Europe, including England, France and Ireland for decades and were the inspiration for Communities in Bloom. In Canada, it began in 1995 with 29 communities and has grown to involve over 800 communities.

Program
The program consists of communities receiving information and being evaluated either provincially or nationally by a volunteer jury of trained professionals on the accomplishments of their entire community (municipal, private, corporate and institutional sectors, citizens) on eight key criteria: Tidiness, Environmental Awareness, Community Involvement, Natural and Cultural Heritage, Conservation, Urban Forestry, Landscaped Areas, Floral Displays and Turf and Groundcovers.

Benefits
The pride, sense of community and feeling of accomplishment generated through participation are visible in communities all over Canada. These benefits mean that everyone wins. Participants can benefit financially through community tourism initiatives, business opportunities and other related projects. Symposiums provide a valuable information exchange to share accomplishments, best practices and accomplishments.

All participants are showcased on the Communities in Bloom website through the "Explore our Communities" section through a description page and a link to their respective community website. The Communities in Bloom Magazine also features participants and program results, as well as articles and educational content. Communities in Bloom develops, with its partners and sponsors, initiatives and promotional opportunities such as the Gardens at the CN Tower and the VIA Rail Garden Route.

Fort Erie's Most Memorable Result was of course in the 2009 National Level Competition when Fort Erie earned 5 Blooms and Second Place - by 2 points less than First

Again, FORT ERIE COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM is sponsoring our improved beautification COMPETITION. This gives property owners all across Fort Erie an opportunity to showcase their creativity and skills in gardening and in grooming their yards. Registration forms are being mailed to former entrants and will also be available in every household and at every garden centre and plant sale location across Fort Erie.

WATCH FOR IMPORTANT DUE DATES AND JUDGING DAYS!

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